FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 APRIL 1983

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil on Negotiations — Lebanon would prefer not to sign any agreement rather than concede rights to any non-Lebanese forces on its territory, President Amin al-Jumayyil told the Lebanese Press Association in remarks reported by Beirut radio on 22 April. Al-Jumayyil said he will not allow southern Lebanon to become another Golan, West Bank, or Gaza Strip. Regarding security arrangements and the future of Major Sa'd Haddad, he said Lebanon refuses to accept any "imposed" decision that would undermine the Army's morale, dignity, or performance, adding that it is "hard to believe" Israel's security depends on one person. Contrary to previous Israeli reports, the president said Lebanon has not accepted the principle of joint patrols in the south. He also expressed optimism about the reorganization of the Lebanese Army, asserting that the Army has made a "qualitative leap" forward in the last 6 months, during which 5,500 new recruits enlisted.

Israeli Position — The Israeli Cabinet decided not to discuss "for the time being" proposals by several ministers for an IDF withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River, IDF Radio reported on 24 April. Earlier, Israeli political sources cited by Jerusalem radio said that, if Secretary of State Shultz is unable to persuade Lebanon to accede to the system of security arrangements desired by Israel, Israel will be obliged to withdraw the IDF to the Al-Awwali River and establish a security fence there so that Al-Jumayyil will remain "president of East Beirut." Israel is "not prepared to renegotiate" issues which it considers settled despite assertions to the contrary by Al-Jumayyil, THE JERUSALEM POST reported on 25 April citing a highly placed Israeli source.

Military Situation — Beirut radio reported intermittent clashes between Israeli and Syrian forces on 23-24 April. The Syrians and Palestinians opened antiaircraft fire at Israeli planes overflying Shtawrah on 22 April, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Meanwhile, the Syrians deployed further reinforcements in the area, including the Palestinian Al-Yarmuk Brigade, and the Israelis have begun constructing an airfield in the western Al-Biqa' and a port south of Ad-Damur, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Dezful Attack — Iraqi forces fired three Soviet-made missiles at the Iranian city of Dezful on 22 April, the second missile attack in 3 days, Tehran radio reported. Sixty people were killed and more than 300 were injured, according to a 24 April IRNA report. Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi issued a statement on 22 April declaring that the attack "will not go unanswered," Tehran radio reported. While noting that several Iraqi towns are within the Iranian forces' firing range, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati declared that Iran "will never attack them," but will give the "appropriate answer" to the Iraqi regime on the battlefront, IRNA reported on 23 April.

Reconciliation Efforts — The Islamic popular conference's peace and reconciliation committee issued a statement in Baghdad blaming Iran for the failure of the committee's efforts to end the war, INA reported on 23 April. The statement described Iran's rejection of peace as an act of aggression against Iraq which makes Muslims "dutybound" to fight the aggressor, INA noted. The committee dismissed Iran's accusations that it was biased in favor of Iraq, INA added. The committee chairman said the conference should not reconvene in Iraq and stressed that it would meet in Iran if that country offers to host it, another INA report noted on 23 April. In another development Iraqi President Saddam Husayn urged Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, to renew efforts to end the conflict with Iran, Delhi radio reported on 25 April.

Oil Slick Dispute — Were it not for Iraq's eagerness to preserve the interests of the Arab Gulf states, Iraq would have insisted on preventing Iran from repairing the Nowruz oil well in order to inflict the "gravest losses" on the Iranian regime, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said in a statement reported by INA on 23 April. He described Iran's demand for a localized cease-fire to repair the leaking oil well as "strange and illogical" and said the only practical and serious way to solve the problem is to force Iran to halt the war. Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Mirza Taheri earlier denied reports that Iran would not participate in forthcoming talks of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment, asserting that Iran will take part in the meeting in a "more decisive manner" while maintaining its previous stand, Tehran radio reported. He warned that, if Iraq persists in its "aggressive acts" and the Gulf states fail to exert "suitable pressure" on Iraq, the oil pollution will cause irreparable damage to the southern Gulf states.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat Activities — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat chaired a Fatah Central Committee meeting in Tunis on 24 April after returning from Morocco where he held talks with King Hassan II on the Palestinian-Jordanian Dialogue, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO and Algiers Voice of Palestine radios. Earlier, 'Arafat announced in remarks broadcast by Rabat radio that the PLO Executive Committee had confirmed its position on the PLO-Jordanian talks during the 21-22 April meeting in Tunis. According to AFP, "some" members of the Executive Committee had urged a total halt to efforts to reach agreement with Jordan's King Husayn.

Financial Affairs — The PLO is facing a deficit because Iran and Libya have stopped financial support, Kuwait's AL-HADAF reported on 22 April.

Saudi Advice — The Palestinian leaders should prove to the United States that it is Israeli intransigence and not the PLO's position which is blocking a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, Saudi Arabia's AL-JAZIRAH asserted in a commentary reported by SPA.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi King Fahd received an Algerian presidential envoy and the Jordanian foreign minister on 24 April, according to SPA reports. Meanwhile, the Jordanian information minister delivered messages to the UAE president and the Qatari amir, WAKH and Doha radio reported.

Saudi Arabia

Information Minister — A royal decree carried by SPA announced that Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani is to be dismissed and replaced by 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir, currently Saudi ambassador to Lebanon.

Coup Plot Denial — A "responsible" source denied the Lebanese Phalangist paper AL-'AMAL's report that "U.S. intelligence" and Saudi authorities have uncovered a planned coup prepared by Soviet intelligence in cooperation with internal extremist elements, Riyadh radio reported.

Egypt

Relations With USSR — Egypt and the Soviet Union signed a cultural and scientific cooperation agreement, MENA reported on 23 April. Although Yugoslavia's TANJUG said the agreement presages an imminent exchange of ambassadors, a Soviet diplomatic source cited by Radio Monte Carlo said that, while the agreement confirms the existing rapprochement between Egypt and the Soviet Union, this does not mean bilateral relations will be normalized.

Proscription of Haykal's Book — The authorities have banned Egyptian journalist Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal's book "Autumn of Fury" as well as all press serialization of its contents, the leftist paper AL-AHALI reported on 20 April.

Libya

Arab diplomatic sources cited by the London weekly AL-MAJALLAH disclosed that Libya has asked the Soviet Union for SAM-5's.

Iran

The clandestine Seda-ye Iran and Free Voice of Iran radios reported on 23 April that Iran is making preparations to announce Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's death. Seda-ye Iran stated that the Council of Experts was ordered to remain in Tehran, and the Free Voice of Iran claimed that Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri secretly visited Tehran to meet with Iranian leaders. Following Khomeyni's 27-minute recorded speech broadcast by Tehran radio on 24 April, the Free Voice of Iran stated that Khomeyni spoke "with a voice which betrayed the seriousness of his condition." Iranians who met with Khomeyni on 24 April described him as speaking with "the voice of a sick person on the verge of death," according to the clandestine Radio Iran.

Afghanistan

Geneva Talks — The Geneva talks were adjourned until June to permit the DRA and Pakistani delegations to consult with their respective governments, Karachi radio reported on 22 April.

Panjshir Valley — French doctors visiting the area reported that fighting between rebels and Soviet forces has ceased, possibly as a result of an agreement between local mujahidin leader Ahmad Mas'ud and the Soviet authorities, AFP reported on 23 April.

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Geneva Talks Adjourn To Allow Consultations

BK221738 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The second round of indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva was adjourned today up to the middle of June next. The talks were adjourned to enable the Pakistani and Kabul regime's delegations to consult with their respective governments on substantive issues contained in the text of the draft for a comprehensive solution of the Afghanistan problem.

The draft had been prepared by the personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez. Mr Cordovez had one meeting each with the Pakistan and Kabul regime's delegations in the morning. In the evening, he had another meeting with the Pakistan delegation.

Afterwards, talking informally to newsmen he said the talks had only been adjourned for the time being. Mr Cordovez earlier said he would be meeting the UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, in Paris tomorrow.

Meanwhile, a spokesman of the Pakistan delegation has denied that any proposal for creating a demilitarized zone between Pakistan and Afghanistan to facilitate Soviet troops' withdrawal and repatriation of Afghan refugees had come up during the indirect talks on Afghanistan. Asked to comment on a Swiss radio report to that effect, he said there had been no mention of such a proposal in the talks.

AFP Cites Reports on Panjshir Valley Cease-fire

BK230956 Hong Kong AFP in English 0943 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Peshawar, North Pakistan, April 23 (AFP) — Two French doctors here backed up reports that a top Afghan rebel leader had negotiated a cease-fire with the Soviet forces in the Panjshir Valley, a rebel stronghold about 100 km north of Kabul.

The two doctors, Daniel Schwartz and Joseph Abgrall, were in the valley from February 14 to April 11. During that time, they said, they saw not a single clash in an area where the Soviet Union had launched six major offensives in three years. They said Soviet air attacks had ended, and that the rebels had significantly relaxed their pressure on Soviet-Afghan positions at the southern entrance to the valley.

The doctors also said some of the Afghans who had left Panjshir during the fighting were gradually returning home, and that houses were being rebuilt, farming had resumed and food shipments were arriving.

The word "cease-fire" was the main topic of conversation among the region's 40,000 inhabitants, the doctors said. Their account appeared to buttress reports by Western diplomats that Ahmad Shah Masud, the valley's resistance leader, had negotiated a cease-fire with the Soviet authorities.

But Major Masud himself refused to confirm the cease-fire reports. According to an independent French journalist who interviewed him, Major Masud said simply that the Russians had left the advanced post of Rokha, in the Panjshir, in March "because they had to."

But the journalist, Pierre Issot-Sergent, noted that Major Masud had expressed satisfaction over the decline in fighting. He quoted Major Masud as saying he was trying to reorganize civilian and military life in the valley.

The journalist, who visited the region, said: "It's armed peace. At night, the rebels travel without hindrance between Gulbahar and Onaba," two advanced Soviet-Afghan posts at the entrance to the valley.

"During the day," he added, "the Soviets can supply Onaba by road, without being harassed by the mujahidin."

The two doctors said the Russians left a large number of mines at the Rokha base. This, they said, gave them the bulk of their work during their stay. They performed 14 amputations because of mine explosions, they said, adding that they treated no wounds suffered in combat.

A truce in that area would benefit both sides, Western diplomats said in Islamabad. It would allow the Soviets to send reinforcements to spring offensives elsewhere in the country and permit Major Masud to reorganize the Panjshir's economy in order to generate logistical support for his rebels.

Kabul Reports Execution of 'Counterrevolutionaries'

LD221716 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] With the approval of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, the death sentences given by a revolutionary court to a number of terrorists and intimidators who belonged to counterrevolutionary bands and who had committed barbaric and inhuman crimes in our country was carried out recently.

Our noble compatriots know that the counterrevolutionary bands are getting weaker and weaker every day and cannot withstand the [word indistinct] revolutionary flood.

Despite this, a number of American, Chinese, and Pakistani mercenaries and puppets are carrying out bombings, terror attacks, and robberies to create fear among our noble people. Their treacherous actions are being exposed in time by the security organs of the country with the cooperation of our noble people. Among these destructive actions in October-November of last year were terrifying explosions which occurred in a number of Kabul city restaurants, as result of which 21 innocent compatriots, including woman and children, were killed and 28 others injured.

The citizens of Kabul witnessed these barbaric actions of the counterrevolutionary bands and expressed their profound hatred and resentment toward the agents of these crimes.

Amnesty Issued To Mark Revolution Anniversary

LD231839 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 23 Apr 83

[DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium decree on amnesty and reduction of prison terms for prisoners on occasion of fifth anniversary of April Revolution]

[Text] The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the April Revolution and in accordance with humanitarianism approves of thefollowing categories of prisoners being freed before completing their sentences.

1. All people who are at or under the age of puberty.

2. All women having prison sentences of up to 5 years, irrespective of the period already spent in prison.

3. All men over the age of 65 serving prison sentences of up to 5 years.

4. All men who have been sentenced to 1 year in prison irrespective of the period already spent in prison.

5. All men who have been sentenced to 5 years in prison andhave already served more than half of their sentence.

The remaining prison terms have been reduced:

1. Sentences for women serving over 5 years imprisonment are reduced by half.

2. Sentences for men serving up to 5 years imprisonment who have not completed half of their sentence are reduced by half.

3. Sentences for men serving more than 5 years imprisonment are reduced by a third.

The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium again reminds those compatriots, who, unwittingly, forcibly, or as a result of propaganda and deception joined the enemy that according to the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium dated 18 June 1981, that if they voluntarily rejoin their popular government they will be pardoned of criminal responsibility.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the April Revolution, the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium announces that those people who, between 27 April 1983 to 11 July 1983, which corresponds to the 1st day of Id al-Fetr, lay down their arms and join their revolutionary government will be given necessary aid to start a peaceful life.

Those people convicted of terrorist crimes and sabotage and those who are members of the Islamic revolutionary movement, the People's Liberation Organization of Afghanistan, and counter-revolutionary bands do not benefit from this decree.

This decree comes into force from the date of approval and will be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium

Officials Greet Foreign Delegations on Arrival

Kampuchean Delegation

LD241925 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari and Pashto 1600 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] A Kampuchean delegation headed by Lim Nai, member of the Central Committee of the revolutionary party and deputy minister of defense of that country, arrived in Kabul to participate in the celebrations of the fifth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airportby Brigadier General Khalilullah, deputy minister of national defense; deputy head of the International Relations Department of the Party Central Committee; and the deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Mongolian Delegation

LD242034 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1245 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul, 24 Apr (BAKHTAR) — Tumenbayaryn Ragchaa, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and first deputy minister of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mongolia, today arrived in Kabul at the head of adelegation to participate in the celebrations of the fifth anniversary of the glorious revolution.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport byAnahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization; Faqir Mohammad Yaqubi, minister-adviser and president of the Afghan-Mongolian Friendship Society; Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy minister of the Foreign Affairs Ministry; deputy head of the International Relations Department of the Party Central Committee; and the Mongolian ambassador to Kabul.

$31-Million Trade Agreement Reached With USSR

LD240722 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] According to the agreement reached between the DRA Ministry of Commerce and the Foreign Trade Ministry of the USSR, $31 million, which has been gained by exporting Afghan goods, especially raisins, to the USSR will be made available to national traders and Afghan trade organizations.

The BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a source from the Ministry of Commerce, reports this money will be used to import consumer goods such as vegetable oil, green and black tea, powdered milk, chicken,cigarettes, [word indistinct], textiles, rayon, artificial cotton, paper, car and radio batteries, china, raw chemical and plastic materials, and motor oil from other countries.

National traders, trade organizations, and private factories utilizing their export-clearing dollars via the DRA Chamber of Commerce and Industry and their relevant unions will purchase and import these goods from various countries.

A source at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry said this agreement and the (?payment) of $31 million to the national traders and trade organizations of our country by the relevant organizations of the Ussr Ministry of Foreign Trade will greatly effect the growth of commercial goods, the supply of consumer goods, and the reduction of prices.

The source added that the friendly state of the Soviet Union, along with extended economic and financial aid, his often given effective and timely assistance for the import of consumer goods to trade, state, and private organizations and national traders of our country by the exchange of export-clearing dollars to (?free) dollars.

Home Minister: Delhi Anxious To Solve Assam Problem

BK230913 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has said that the center is keen to solve the foreign nationals issue in Assam through negotiations. Already several rounds of talks were held to solve the problem, but no solution has been reached so far. He told PTI in New Delhi that with the formation of the new government in Assam the state chief minister, Mr Saikia, has renewed efforts to pursuade the agitation leaders to come back to the negotiating table. A fresh round of talks can be held after normalcy is restored in the state.

Mr Sethi referred to reports of sporadic violence in Assam and said a peaceful atmosphere, congenial for talks, is necessary to find a solution.

The home minister disclosed that a high-level central team will leave for Gauhati today to make an on-the-spot study of the law-and-order situation in Assam. The team will also review the progress of the relief measures taken up to help the affected people there. The center has already released 200 million rupees for relief and rehabilitation work. It would provide all necessary financial and other assistance to resettle the displaced persons, he added.

Efforts Continue in Assam To Recover Weapons

BK240924 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] In Assam efforts by security forces to recover illicit arms and ammunition from antisocial elements continued throughout the state.

New Sikh Priest Bans Armed Persons in Temple

BK250429 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Agency reports say that the newly appointed head priest of Akal Takhat [highest seat of Sikh], Jathedar Kirpal Singh, is reported to have issued instructions banning entry of armed persons into the Golden Temple. There have been objections recently against guns being carried inside the Golden Temple, which amount to disrespect to the sacred place and also caused panic among devotees. The ban, however, does not apply to the carrying of traditional weapons.

While the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [management] authorities have denied the ban, religious leaders said that it is an attempt to reviving and old tradition which had been ignored and flouted over the years.

The Bharatiya Janata president, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, has suggested that the center should set up a judicial commission to go into what he called the complaints of discrimination against Sikhs. Talking to newsmen in Simla, he said that the commission should be headed by a judge from outside Punjab.

Meanwhile, the Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has asked the government to announce its decision on his party's demands. Addressing a congregation in Amritsar, he said this is necessary in the interest of Punjab as well as the country. In a resolution, the general body of the Vijaywada Sri Gura Singh Sabha has appealed to the Akali Dal president to give up the path of confrontation with the center.

Police Official, Child Killed in Amiritsar

BK250940 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] In Punjab the deputy inspector general of police, Jullender Range, Avtar Singh Atwal, was shot dead this mroning as he came out of the Golden Temple in Amritsar. Atwal had gone there to offer prayers. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that the murder has been committed by extremists.

A boy of 13 was also killed in the incident and another person was injured in the firing. Police arrangements in the Golden Temple area have been tightened.

Dalai Lama Visiting Arunachal Pradesh

BK231600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The Dalai Lama, now on a visit to Arunachal Pradesh, has called upon the Tibetans settled the relations with the local people and be helpful to them. According to the chief monk of Tezu monastry, the Dalai Lama was highly pleased to see the facilities extended to the Tibetans by the government.

USSR Agrees To Provide Additional Crude Oil

BK221638 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The Soviet Union has agreed to supply 250,000 tons of crude oil to India in addition to its yearly supplies of 2.5 million tons. This was agreed to at the end of the 5-day talks between the delegation sof the two countries in New Delhi. A memorandum in this regard was signed today by the Soviet deputy minister for foreign trade, Mr I.T. Grishin, and the commerce secretary, Mr Abid Hussain. The two delegations also agreed to work to double the growth rate in trade over the level of 1976-80.

USSR's I.T. Grishin Arrives for Trade Talks
BK241538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] A seven-member Soviet delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade I.T. Grishin arrived in Islamabad this afternoon. It will sign a commodities exchange agreement for 1983-84. The leader of the delegation told newsmen at Islamabad airport that the signing of this agreement will significantly increase the volume of trade between the two countries. He said both Pakistan and the Soviet Union are satisfied with last year's trade, and the ways and means to further increase the volume of bilateral trade will be reviewed at talks with Pakistani officials tomorrow.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the agreement is likely to be signed on Wedenesday.

Guinea-Bissau Signs Agreement To Purchase Rice
BK221704 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Pakistan and Guinea-Bissau signed in Islamabad on 21 April two agreements for the purchase of Pakistani rice. The agreements followed talks between the federal finance minister, Ghalum Ishaq Khan, and the Guinea-Bissau delegation led by Foreign Minister Samba Lamine Mane.

Under one agreement, Guinea-Bissau will buy from Pakistan between 5,000 tons to 20,000 tons of rice this year subject to negotiations. Under the other agreement, Guinea-Bissau will lift 10,000 tons of rice this year on a 2-year credit basis.

The Guinea-Bissau foreign minister called on the president in Rawalpindi on 21 April.

Iranian Diplomat Denies Saudi Report
GF241702 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Apr 83 P 6

[Text] The acting consul-general of Iran in Karachi, Mr Gholamreza 'Alireza'i, has contradicted a news item broadcast by the Jidda Radio claiming that the Iranian Government has reportedly permitted compulsory blood donations from the condemned prisoners prior to their execution in Iran.

In a written statement, Mr 'Alireza'i said the document, on which the news was based, was forged by the Zionist and imperialist media, adding that "nobody in Iran would accept the dirty blood of anti-revolutionary. There was no dearth of voluntary blood donation for the war victims.... Observers have witnessed long queues of voluntary donors in various cities of Iran."

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Democracy Restoration Movement To Be Dissolved
GF221000 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 18 Apr 83 p 1

[Special correspondent's report]

[Text] Lahore, 17 April: The member parties of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy [MRD] have agreed to its dissolution in view of increasing differences in its ranks.

It transpires that the issue was discussed at an unofficial session of the MRD in Karachi during the course of which political leaders suggested that a new body be set up that would include all other parties which were not members of the MRD and that would be based on minimum requirements. Serious differences have appeared in MRD ranks during the past 6 months.

The MRD's provincial secretary, Rao Abdur Rashid, who has been released after 6 months of detention, castigated the MRD leadership and asked the officeholders to resign. As a result, some parties in the MRD protested while other members praised his statement.

Casualties, Damage Reported in Second Dezful Attack

GF230640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The war-loving Iraqi regime, unable to resist the surging movement of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, unable to face the Islamic forces on the fronts, and helpless before the steel-like will of the Muslims of Dezful, shelled the people of this city, who have a history of bravery for the Islamic Revolution, for the second time in the past 3 days with the approval of the two powers of the East and the West.

Yesterday afternoon, they launched three missiles which damaged houses in this city and killed the unarmed brave civilians of Dezful. According to reports received, this crime occurred yesterday at 1835 when the Muslim citizens of the city were going to mosques to pray and many were martyred.

According to the latest reports received at 0100 this morning, the number of the martyred as result of this desperate crime has reached 37 and the number of wounded people has reached 210. The wounded have been transported to various hospitals in Dezful for treatment.

According to a report by IRNA, the missiles launched by the nonbelieving Saddamists created 5-meter-deep craters. The number of houses and shops damaged or completely destroyed by this missile attack launched by the Ba'thist aggressors has reached 200.

This report also said that most of the martyrs were children between 2 months and 11 years of age, but also included some women.

Also according to this report, the Ba'thist aggressors' missiles hit the densely-populated areas of Dezful where the oppressed people live and much damage was sustained.

After this attack, the martyr-nurturing nation of Dezful accompanied by rescue units hurried to these areas to help the wounded and bring out the bodies of martyrs who were buried under debris. Among the martyred were 2 families which numbered 8 and 6 members respectively.

Currently, rescue units are continuing to attempt to uncoverthe bodies of martyrs from the debris, and a group of the resisting citizens of Dezful have gathered at the city hospitals to donate blood.

Prime Minister Vows To Avenge Dezful Bombing

LD222324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Following today's criminal act of bombing the martyr-nurturing city of Dezful by the Zionist regime of Iraq, the following statement was issued by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Tonight heroic Dezful was merged with blood because in the 31-month epic it has summerized a revolution. [sentence as heard]

The [word indistinct] manifestations of humanity, when trying to show the extent of their hatred for the divine uprising of these people, imagine that causing grief for the people of Dezful — this most dear part of the Islamic homeland — would be enough. What do the executioners of colonialism, who are sitting on the trembling throne of power, want to achieve by slaughtering the defenseless people of this town? Now that the internal agents of the superpowers have been uprooted and now that they are not able to turn sour the sweet taste of our new victory, they have taken it up themselves. [sentence as heard] Do they want to show the extent of their belief in Islam and their support for the masses by killing deprived Muslims for the religious figures and kings who have usurped the title of Islam and popular rule? Do they want to show their inability? Do they want to taste the convincing answer of a great nation? Do they want to boil the new blood in the veins of these people and bring the good tiding of their own annihiliation? Or are they just trying to quench their bloodthirsty nature with these repeated slaughters?

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby declares that the savagery of the Ba'thist regime will not go unanswered. The Government of the Islamic Republic condoles the heroic people of Dezful and calls on the other cities throughout the country to share the mourning of this martyr-nurturing people and declares 23 April 1983 as a day of public mourning to mark this occasion.

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Velayati: No Retaliation Against Iraqi Towns for Dezful

LD232124 Tehran IRNA in English 2022 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 23, Irna — Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati said in a press conference Saturday that the Islamic Republic would not retaliate against the Iraqi people for the missile attacks against Dezful but instead would give the "appropriate answer" to the Iraqi regime in the battlefront.

He said Dezful had been attacked by Iraqi missiles more than 40 times since the war began 31 months ago and it was up to the international organisations to condemn Iraq's flagrant violation of international law in attacking civilian populated areas.

"The effort of our combatants has always been to combat the Iraqi military forces and push them away from the country's residential areas", he said. "Our combatants have responded to all these undignified and inhuman attacks (in the past) and (this time) our combatants and people will respond to the Iraqi regime".

The Iranian foreign minister further said that several Iraqi towns were within the fire-range of the Iranian Islamic forces, but he added "we will never attack them (Iraqi people) because they are our brothers and innocent...and because our government is an Islamic and a humanitarian one. Therefore we will never resort to such actions."

He said that the Islamic Republic had formerly protested to the United Nations and its related organisations for the (?Iraqi) attacks on Dezful and Iranian representatives in various countries had been instructed to describe the Iraqi crimes to foreign governments. He said Iran would also follow up the matter with the Non-aligned Movement.

Asked about the Iraqi attacks on Iranian oil fields, Velayati said the attacks were fruitlessly aimed at pressuring the regional Arab states to find a solution to the Iraqi imposed war.

He said the pollution of the Persian Gulf was more against the interests of the regional Arab states rather than of Iran.

Ayatollah Montazeri Sends Condolences to Dezful Imam
LD231354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Telegram sent by Ayatollah Montazeri to Friday imam of Dezful]

[Text] In His Exalted name. His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Majdoddin Qazi, esteemed Friday imam of Dezful, may his good work continue.

The renewed missile attack which the malignant Saddam, this fire kindling and warmongering element, launched and which culminated in the martyrdom and wounding of a great many innocent children, including our heroic Dezful brothers and sisters, is cause for regret and sorrow. I cannot understand how international circles, defending as it were human rights, could lose their conscience over all these crimes and acts of oppression perpetrated by a corrupt regime and not say a single word.

The come through with flying colors. Their patience, resistance, selflessness, and unity will always be recorded in the brilliant history of our vigilant nation. May God Almighty grant all of them spiritual recompense.

Isn't it time for the protagonists of the deviationist minigroups which have been alienated from the people to doubt the veracity of their own venal ringleaders and for their simple, duped supporters to question their subservience to and direct links with this bloodthirsty regime? How could they back a minigroup whose will-less heads are being nurtured and strengthened in the bosom of such an anti-Islamic regime?

It is appropriate that Your Excellency should convey my sorrow, condolences, and congratulations to the families and relatives of the dear martyrs who fell as a result of Saddam's latest crime. May God Almighty grant His mercy and compassion to the martyrs and to all of Islam's dear martyrs, including the martyrs of Karbala' and His great saints, and may He grant us all success in following their sacred path and carrying out their Islamic duties. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

Joint Staff, Guards Corps Issue Communique on Dezful
LD231920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] In connection with the missile attack by the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Saddam on the brave city of Dezful, the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps have issued the following joint communique.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the rise of the liberating message of the Islamic Revolution all over the world, the message of death and annihilation for international oppression is heard by the oppressed and deprived of the world. The selfless nation of Islamic Iran, which carries the burden of the promise to liberate the deprived people, at this point has entered into a hard and ceaseless fight with the aggressors and oppressors of the world and it has given all its might in this cause. World imperialism and international Zionism, which are aware of our beliefs and the love of our courageous nation for dear Islam, are using all their power and are plotting various conspiracies in an effort to restrict the spreading message of the Islamic Revolution. Following this objective and taking advantage of mercenary and criminal agents like Saddam, they have imposed a war on the Islamic Revolution.

Three and a half years after the start of the war imposed by the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Iraq against the Muslim nation of Iran, which helped reveal the ugly face of world imperialism more than ever, and on the occasion of the anniversary of the military aggression by the criminal United States on the Tabas desert which was buried in a sandstorm by God's will, the mercenary warmongers have remembered that disgraceful aggression. Following the orders of Western imperialism led by the archsatan and backed by the weapons and support of other military powers, they have committed another disgraceful crime. They have aimed at the houses and homes of the hezbollahi nation, those sturdy columns defending the borders of dear Islam. They have stained the heroic town of Dezful, the hometown of self-sacrificing martyrs with the pure blood of the ever alert residents of this immortal town. This in itself is more clear prolong the war and of the warmongering attitude of Baghdad's rulers in the region. It reveals the false nature of the senseless and baseless peace-seeking slogans of the 'Aflaqite Saddam broadcast by the Zionist loudspeakers and media which are spreading lies.

Our aware and courageous nation, by its widespread presence on the fronts of the imposed war, has rubbed the nose of the warmongering aggressors in the dirt to such an extent that the enemy is incapable of resisting or confronting the soldiers of the army of Islam. By firing missiles at the houses of defenseless people, the enemy is martyring infants, children, women, men, and the aged. The enemy is ignorant of the fact that the flood of blood of the martyrs of Islamic Iran in dear Dezful will foil the multitude of conspiracies of the enemies of Islam and will strengthen the determined and steadfast steps of our combatants in seeking their rights and annihilating the leaders of infidelity and aggression. Such fatule efforts have caused the more vast and widespread presence of the nation of Islam on the fronts of

the war imposed by the Iraqi regime against Iran. This heroic presence will continue until the slogan "War, war until victory" is realized.

The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps are defending dear Islam like a divine army on the battlefronts and are dealing crushing blows on the corpse of international oppression and the Zionist regime of Iraq. Helped by God and relying on the supreme teachings of the divine religion of Islam and with the storming presence of the Islamic nation on the battlefronts, they will teach another lesson to world oppression and its evil mercenaries. Our forces always keep the message of the precious martyrs of Islam in their minds as a guide for their divine move. God's blessings and benedictions on the martyrs of the dear Islam and the champion town of Dezful. Seek assistance from God and victory will be yours.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Central Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,293

LD221802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,293 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name, the result of efforts by the selfless combatants on the fronts of the war of right against wrong and the situation at the fronts of the imposed war hereby are brought to the attention of the dear Muslim compatriots.

Yesterday, sporadic fighting and exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued on most of the southern fronts of the country. The powerful and selfless combatants of Islam'using artillery and heavy weapons fire, foiled the activities and efforts of the Saddamist mercenaries and inflicted damage and casualties on them. The Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries launched a counter-offensive on one of the Wal Fajr operational regions at 0115 yesterday morning, but the proud soldiers of Islam dealt heavy blows on the enemy and crushed the aggressive forces, pushing them back and inflicting considerable damage and casualties.

At (?0250) on 21 April, the aggressive mercenaries of Saddam in the (Sharhani) region, backed by artillery fire, attempted to advance and infiltrate the defensive positions of our selfless combatants, but the self-sacrificing and victorious soldiers of Islam, with courage and heroic resistance, stopped the advance of the Saddamists by artillery fire, crushing the Iraqi forces, killing about 200, wounding others, and forcing the rest to flee. Those killed were left in the trenches.

In exchanges of fire on the Abadan front, the Gendarmerie warriors returned the fire of Saddamist mercenaries and destroyed more than (?eight) trenches and observation posts. Engineering and trench digging operations of the Iraqi forces were interrupted and a number of their forces were killed.

During the past 24 hours, the evil natured criminals and warmongers of Saddam opened heavy artillery fire on Abadan;about 15 houses and shops were demolished while 6 of our dear compatriots were either martyred or wounded.

On the western fronts, exchanges of fire between our powerful forces and the Ba thist Iraqi mercenaries continued. Damage sustained by the Iraqi forces was destruction of one truck and several weapons emplacements and personnel positions. A number of enemy forces were killed.

During the past 24 hours, the self-sacrificing pilots of the Air Force, using tactical moves, and the antiaircraft units, using defensive fire, foiled the air attacks by the Ba'thist mercenaries on the westen and southern borders of our country.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,294

LD231750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,294 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby expresses its condolences and congratulations over the tragic martyrdom of a number of our dear Dezful brothers and sisters sent to the presence of the hidden imam — may God speed his blessed coming, his true vice regent Imam Khomeyni and the martyr-nurturing people of Iran.

The blood of the martyrs of the heroic city of Dezful, spilled as a result of missile attacks by the Zionist regime of Saddam, as well as the blood of all martyrs of the imposed war, causes legitimate sorrow and deprivation to a nation which, on a charge of defending Islam and the Islamic homeland and defending human liberty, integrity, tolerance, and resistance for the sake of maintaining the achievements of the Islamic Revolution, has been the target of supercriminals and their agents' savage assault. However,the world's filthy arrogance must realize that the heroic nation of Iran which has given its blood and martyrs will not submit to any pressure and the heroic sons of Islam will retaliate bravely for such awful crimes at the warfronts.

The Islamic forces' combat operations in the past 24 hours continued with artillery and mortar fire against enemy positions and against the frontlines of the southern operational zone. Fire was exchanged in one engagement. Ss a result of the Islamic combatants' fierce fire, the activities of the Iraqi forces' engineering personnel and equipment were disrupted and enemy heavy weapons fire was halted.

Yesterday, our combat units opened fire across the Arvand Rud and on the Iraqi military personnel's concentrations, setting on fire and destroying enemy positions and fortifications.

Enemy long-range and heavy fire yesterday gutted parts of Abadan;four civilian houses were destroyed.

On the border fronts of Ilam, Qasr-e-Shirin, and Bakhtaran, heavy weapons fire continued to be exchanged over the past 24 hours. By firing on enemy's positions, our forces destroyed a number of bunkers and inflicted losses and casualties on the aggressors.

In the Marivan region, the fire of our artillery units destroyed Iraqi equipment, weapons, and bunkers across the border and a number of enemy soldiers were killed.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,295

LD241722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,295 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday, exchanges of fire continued on all the fronts of the imposed war between our mightyforces and the Ba'thist forces. The combatants of Islam defended their positions and fired on enemy positions and units, inflicting considerable losses and casualties, silencing enemy fire, and disrupting enemy attempts to repair and organize their positions. Also, by dispatching patrol groups and keeping enemy movements under control with their prompt fire, the combatants of Islam dealt blows tothe Saddamist aggressors.

On the western fronts, enemy losses included the destruction of several batteries, setting an ammunition depot on fire, the destruction of parts of the (Bannib) oil installations, and the deaths of a number of the Saddamist forces.

On the Marivan front, thanks to the fire of the combatants of Islam, some enemy positions and assembly points were pounded, a number of enemy emplacements were destroyed, and enemy movements in that sector were prevented.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan fronts, Gendarmerie combatants brought enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud under fire, destroying several foxholes and observation posts and two mortar emplacements, and killing or injuring a number of enemy personnel.

During the past 24 hours, our antiaircraft units repelled any enemy attempts at aerial aggression.

[Signed] Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran

Khomeyni 24 April Speech Scores Iran's Critics

LD241429 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to teachers and workers in Tehran on 24 April; duration 27 minutes — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This is an opportune day — being the birth anniversary of Imam Javad, peace be upon him — to be in the great presence of teachers and workers.

My dear brothers, you are living in an age when darkness has embraced the world. You are living in an age when human values have totally disappeared, having been replaced by world satans and satanic values. You are living in an inhuman age, in an age when they want to bring the world under the domination of satan. Under these circumstances, we must rely on God Almighty, Islam, the Koran, and the guardian of the age, peace be upon him. We must work hard and continue our holy war. We must launch our holy war in the universities and the faculties, in factories and workshops, in agriculture, in schools, and elsewhere.

We must launch our holy war on the battlefronts and behind the fronts. The satanic elements may have infiltrated all those groups that have arisen for the sake of God. You must resist with all your might, in all departments, the hypocrites. There might be present infiltrators who want to undermine this country and subject it to the domination of the superpowers. It is necessary for our committed brothers inside the factories and within this great Islamic jihad to fight them. They must not allow them to mislead our dear young people by means of their sinister propaganda.

The enemies are waiting in ambush. You see for yourselves what the enemies are doing around us with their propaganda. You see to what measures they resort and what they do to support our enemies. We do not rely on anyone but God Almighty. We have human values against whatever they have; we have God. You must bear in mind what those who claim to be supporting the people and Arabs are doing in Khuzestan. You saw what they did to dear Dezful. They assume that by killing with their missiles, inside homes,our children and old women and destroying their homes they can make us surrender. They have not understood Khuzestan; they have not understood Dezful. Despite the fact that they have experienced it on many occasions, that they destroyed the homes of our dear ones, that they have martyred a great many of God's friends — nevertheless, in spite of all this, we continue to resist strongly. The Iranian nation and the inhabitants of dear Dezful continue to resist calamity and suffering. Our young people in Dezful continue to cry "War, war until victory." [shouts of "God is great" followed by "Death to America, death to Russia"]

Those who make false claims to support the people are harming the Iranian people. Those who are treating the great ulema of Iran, the beloved great figures of Iran and its great scholars, in such a manner, who are resorting to terrorism against all classes and maintaining their bond of friendship with the Saddam government, which has committed such crimes against Iran, which has committed such a great crime against Dezful — these people have already shown their true face to the world. These people are still unprepared to condemn this diabolical act and this vicious man.

This is what has happened to our world. You see that, faced with this great crime which has been repeated over the years and in recent days it was repeated once again,there was no trace of any

condemnation in all the media. They simply referred to them in passing, adding in a word that this is what Iran claims. Iraq also claims that it has only retaliated.

Human values have disappeared in the world; humanitarianism has been rejected in the world. Those claiming to support human rights, the elaborate and high-sounding organizations set in the world — we do not see them condemning Iraq's acts. These organizations receive their cues from our enemies and then issue statements against Iran, the dear Iranian nation. They issue warnings to us. They substantiate their claims by stating that this is what our enemies have said. The so-called sound reasoning given by international organizations is: You are killing small children on thestreets; you are daily executing hundreds of people in Evin Prison. As proof of this, they quote our enemies. Why do they state this? Because the hypocrites have said so. This is good enough for these organizations. However, they do not question what Saddam has done here.

We hope that a situation is created by this Islamic center of Iran which will eliminate these corrupt values, propagate dear Islam, and bring about a situation in the world reviving the Islamic values which have been ignored. To do this, we must first of all look at ourselves.

There are people living in this country who are sediments which have remained behind. These people beat their chests in favor of the West or the East. Meanwhile, they claim to be an integral part of the nation. These people are aliens in the guise of nationalists and Iranians. They are aliens in Iran, and Iran no longer recognizes them as Iranian. The individual who sacrifices all his Islamic and national values for the USSR or for America is not considered an Iranian. [shouts of "God is great, death to America, death to the USSR"]

My dear brothers and sisters, we have entered on the path of the prophets. History tell us that the prophets have always faced problems. There has always been a deprived class fighting the satan. Pray be to God, today the might of the Iranians and the strength of Islam in Iran are such that they have become the focus of attention in all the oppressed nations. Islam has been exported throughout the world. Those dear Negroes in America, those in Africa and in the USSR have been illuminated by Islam. Their attention is now focused on Islam. This is what we mean by exporting the revolution; it has now materialized. God willing, Islam will vanquish blasphemy everywhere.

God bless you and make you prosper. May God bless our martyrs, especially our Dezful martyrs. May God grant them patience. May God prepare us to face problems and favor us more with his blessings. God bless you all.

Clandestine Radio on Khomeyni's Illness, Speech

GF250506 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Fear of Khomeyni's death has gripped the so-called Islamic regime. According to correspondents of the Free Voice of Iran, the mullahs are involved in creating a modus operandi for concealing Khomeyni's illness. However, the evidence and proof that we have in hand have foiled these efforts and have revealed the fact that Khomeyni's condition is critical.

The segment on Khomeyni's speech presented in today's midday newscast was another attempt in this direction, to prove that Khomeyni is not in danger of dying.

During the past week, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri made two secret and hurried visits to Tehran, and the echelons of the mullahs of Tehran held discussions behind closed doors so that the procedure for the announcement of Khomeyni's demise in the event of his imminent death in the near future could be decided upon and finalized.

Today, Khomeyni's labor and education ministers anda group of mercenary hezbollahis were hastily taken to meet him so that the rumor of his critical condition could be quashed.

During this visit, Khomeyni once again defended the prolongation of the war with Iraq, with a voice which betrayed the seriousness of his condition.

Official on Participation in Kuwait Pollution Talks

LD221828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Mirza Taheri, deputy prime minister and head of the environmental protection organization, accompanied by several experts of the organization and of the Continental Shelf Oil Company, arrived in Bushehr this morning to inspect the Nowruz oil field and to assess the extent of pollution to Persian Gulf waters.

On his arrival, he gave an interview to IRNA, in the course of which he denied reports on Iran's nonparticipation in next week's session in Kuwait. Mirza Taheri then said: An Islamic Republic delegation will take part in this session in a more decisive manner, while maintaining its previous stand. The imperialist media, operating under the influence of the superpowers, are unable to harm our rightful stands by reporting such matters.

Commenting on the inhuman act perpetrated by the Zionist Iraqi regime in causing damage to the Nowruz wells — an act whose consequences, including harming and killing marine resources and destroying desalination plants, will mainly harm the region's Arab states — he said: We will inform the Kuwait session about facts of which some of the region's states are unaware, for Iran does not want the region's states and Muslims to suffer in the midst of these events. He then added: As far as has been possible, our country has clarified its just stand for the Pesian Gulf states. However, as the Iraqi regime operates as a fascist regime in the region it has pressured some of these countries. But, having an apt stance, we have informed these countries, and they too have accepted our views in formal sessions.

Mirza Taheri then said: The Islamic Republic of Iran has the military capability to stand up and respond to the Zionist Iraqi regime. However, since there are other oil wells in the Persian Gulf waters belonging to neighboring countries, Iran has tried to avoid any hostile act.

Commenting on the extent of the pollution in the Persian Gulf, he said: Following some studies by Iranian experts it appears that the oil slick and damage in the waters of the Persian Gulf of the southern Gulf states is definitely much greater than in our coastal waters. Consequently, should the Iraqi Government refuse to abandon its aggressive acts and should the region's states fail to apply suitable pressure to the aggressive Iraqi regime, then the pollution will result in irreparable damage to the southern littoral states.

Concluding his remarks with a comment on Iran's measures to cap the oil wells, he said: We have already made the necessary plans, with the assistance of organizations concerned; the necessary facilities have been made available. Therefore, as soon as the region's security is assured, Iranian experts will begin their operations.

'Antirevolutionary Elements' Routed From Villages

GF221652 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Urumiyeh, April 22, IRNA — Armed antirevolutionary groups were dislodged and as much as 12 kms of the area midway between the cities of Mahabad and Piranshahr in West Azerbayjan was liberated in the wake of mopping up operations conducted in this north western commune yesterday.

Five villages were reportedly set free and the bases of antirevolutionary elements in the villages of (Leak-Bin), (Kani-Mollahaji), (Ghaldeh), and (Kani-Bagh) were recaptured.

Residents of the villages received with a warm welcome the personnel of the Armed Forces. The casualty toll of the antirevolutionary elements here is said to have been high.

IRNA Reports Soviet Commander Killed in Afghanistan

LD241008 Tehran IRNA in English 0913 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Zahedan, east of Iran, April 24, IRNA — Calm demonstration in Herat Province, Afghanistan, was turned into a fierce clash when joint forces interfered, martyring 12 inhabitants of the province and injuring a number of others late last week.

Meanwhile, Afghan Muslim mujahideen planted mines in a number of villages on the way of the armoured forces of the aggressive troops in the same province, as a result of which several joint forces' tanks with their occupants were destroyed and a commander of Soviet guerrilla forces in Zandejan Governorate of Herat was killed.

As a sign of their opposition to the present regime ruling in Afghanistan people would go up on the roof, after every evening prayers, and would chant "Allah-o-akbar" (God is the greatest). This gesture has demoralised the aggressive forces to a great extent.